

## Interim Dividend

The Board has resolved to propose an interim dividend of RMB0.026 per share for the six months ended 30 June 2003 (the interim dividend in 2002: Nil). Please note that the distribution of interim dividend is subject to the passing by the shareholders at the First Extraordinary Shareholders' Meeting to be held on Friday, 24 October 2003, of a resolution to authorise the Board of Directors to declare, recommend or pay interim dividend for the year 2003. Please refer to "Notice of Extraordinary Shareholder's General Meeting" for the details of the meeting.

The interim dividend is expected to be paid on or before Friday, 14 November 2003, to the shareholders whose names appear on the register of shareholders on Thursday, 23 October 2003. The register of the shareholders of the Company will be temporarily closed from Tuesday, 23 September 2003 to Thursday, 23 October 2003 (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares will be registered.

In order to qualify for the interim dividend, the holders of H shares whose transfers have not been registered are requested to deposit the transfer documents together with relevant share certificates to the Company's Branch Share Registrar in Hong Kong, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited of Rooms 1712–1716, 17/F., Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's

Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong, not later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, 22 September 2003, for registration.

Pursuant to the Articles of Association of the Company, dividends payable to the holders of Domestic Shares will be paid in Renminbi, while dividends payable to the holders of H Shares will be paid in Hong Kong dollars. The exchange rate for the dividends to be paid in Hong Kong dollars is the mean of the average exchange rate of Renminbi to Hong Kong dollar published by the People's Bank of China during the calendar week (18 August 2003 to 22 August 2003) prior to the date of declaration of the dividend. During the period, the average exchange rate of Renminbi to Hong Kong Dollar was HK\$1.00=RMB1.06094. Accordingly, the amount of interim dividend for each H Share of the Company is HK\$0.0245.